

### **Amendments to the Specification**

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 28, lines 13, with the following paragraph:

The human placental stem cells provided by the placenta are surprisingly embryonic-like, for example, the presence or absence of the following cell surface markers have been identified for these cells: SSEA3<sup>-</sup>, SSEA4<sup>-</sup>, Oct-4<sup>+</sup> and ABC-p<sup>+</sup>. Thus, the invention encompasses stem cells which have not been isolated or otherwise obtained from an embryonic source but which can be identified by the presence or absence of the following markers: SSEA3<sup>-</sup>, SSEA4<sup>-</sup>, Oct-4<sup>+</sup> and ABC-p<sup>+</sup>. In one embodiment, the human placental stem cells do not express MHC Class 2 antigens.